

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/715,520

Examiner

Stefan Staicovici

Applicant(s)

KASAI ET AL.

Art Unit

1732

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed August 30, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 2.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>11/10/06</u> . |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>12/21/2004</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/ Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicants' amendment filed August 30, 2006 has been entered. Claims 1 and 2 are pending in the instant application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kenneth Salen on November 10, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

- in claim 1:

- on line 4, after "films", "deformed" has been replaced with --curved--;
- on line 11, after the first occurrence of "to", "corresponding to" has been deleted;
- on line 12, before "release", "deformed" has been replaced with --curved--;
- on line 12, after "release", "film" has been replaced with --films--;
- on line 13, after "shape", --to form a laminated body-- has been inserted;
- on line 16, after "fed", --such as-- has been inserted;
- on line 19, after "step", "for gripping" has been replaced with --grip--;

- on line 19, after “and”, “introducing” has been replaced with --introduce--;
- on line 21, before “while”, “preformed” has been replaced with --performed--;
- on line 22, after “prepreg”, --sheets-- has been inserted.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not teach or suggest a process for continuously molding a fiber reinforced plastic member with a curvature including,

feeding release films curved in advance to correspond to the curvature of the molded member;

feeding plural sheets of semi-cured prepreg material, of thermosetting resin impregnated carbon or glass fiber, such as to be sandwiched between the release films;

laminating and preforming a laminated body of prepreg sheets along a core having a cross-sectional shape and a curvature corresponding to the shape and curvature of the member being formed;

hot-pressing the laminated and curved release films and prepreg laminated body of prepreg sheets to form a laminated body, wherein the hot-pressing is performed while pullers disposed before and after the hot-pressing step grip and introduce the laminated body into the hot-press to thereby perform the hot-pressing step while preventing tension from being placed on the fiber in the prepreg sheets; and

post-curing the laminated body by heating.

Art Unit: 1732

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

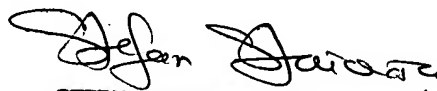
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stefan Staicovici, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-1208. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Johnson, can be reached on (571) 272-1176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AU 1732

November 12, 2006


STEFAN STAICOVICI, PHD
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Au 1732 11/12/06